

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application is amended herein is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 10 are presently amended in part to overcome the Examiner's objections of paragraph 5 of the office action.

It is noted with appreciation that the Examiner considers applicant's arguments submitted on July 13, 2007. It was, however, stated by the Examiner that "the service providers are considered subscribers to the SABER (which includes the CAM) and therefore the subscribers (service providers) are customers to a service provider (CAM) in said shared network because the CAM provides the encryption (conditional access) services for the providers." The Examiner rejected the independent claims of the present application under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon Wasilewski, et al. (U.S. Publication 2002/0094084) when taken in combination with Atkinson (U.S. Patent No. 5,511,122). The Examiner appears to have taken a broader reading of the term "subscriber" than is used in Wasilewski. In particular, the Examiner appears to consider service providers as "subscribers" of the conditional access manager (CAM) in the context of Wasilewski. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In addition, the Applicant respectfully submits that even if the service providers were considered subscribers to the SABER/CAM, Wasilewski fails to disclose the subscriber installation specific access interface as recited in the independent claims of the present invention. This attribute was previously identified in an earlier response to an office action, but the Examiner has not explained how Wasilewski can be interpreted so that it discloses the subscriber installation specific access interface. The subscriber

installation specific access interface implies a single specific access interface for each subscriber. This clearly is not disclosed in Wasilewski. For example, Fig. 1 of Wasilewski clearly shows one SABER/CAM unit (the access interface) common to at least two service providers (110a and 110b). Thus, the access interface simply is not user specific in Wasilewski.

In addition, to further clarify the independent claims, claims 1 and 6 have now been amended so that these claims now further recite that the access interface is located at the subscriber's premises. Support for this description is on pg.3, ln. 23, as originally filed. Wasilewski does not disclose these access interface features. The Examiner is again directed to Fig. 1 of Wasilewski, where the SABER/CAM unit is separated from the service provider by data link 40. The Examiner is also directed to Wasilewski paragraph 0036, which includes "[t]he requested MPEG-2 transport packets are then output over a data link 40 encapsulated in a network protocol," which implies that the SABER/CAM unit can be physically located far from the service provider.

As described above, Wasilewski does not read on the claims of the present invention. As explained in Applicant's previous communications, Wasilewski does not solve the same problem and the same advantages cannot be obtained by following the teachings of Wasilewski. In fact, the Wasilewski disclosure is quite distinct from the present invention.

In the advisory action, the Examiner stated that the Applicant had discussed the benefits of the invention but not the claims. The Applicant respectfully disagrees, because, as was explained in the description of the present invention, in the conventional methods, the police control operations are performed at the level of the

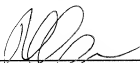
concentrating router (pg. 7, ln. 5-8), whereas in the present invention the subscriber merely needs to intervene at the level of the access interface with which the subscriber is furnished (pg. 3, ln. 34-36). Thus, it is beneficial to have one access interface for each user, and that the access interface is located at the subscriber's premises. The same advantages cannot be achieved if the interface is located elsewhere.

Based upon the above clarification, it should be clear that the solutions provided by the present invention and by Wasilewski are quite distinct.

In addition, the independent claims as presently amended are not rendered obvious by Wasilewski in combination with the other cited art. Other claims should be allowed as well, because they depend on the allowable base claim either directly or indirectly. Thus, we now believe that the present invention is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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